

Senate

General Assembly

File No. 509

January Session, 2001

Substitute Senate Bill No. 1043

Senate, April 30, 2001

The Committee on Education reported through SEN. GAFFEY of the 13th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING SCHOOL BUS CONTRACTS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 (NEW) (a) As used in this section:
- 2 (1) "Purchasing agent" means any official of the state or any political
- 3 subdivision thereof authorized to negotiate or enter into a student
- 4 transportation contract or agreement on behalf of the state or political
- 5 subdivision thereof;
- 6 (2) "Nonmanagement employees" means school bus drivers, school
- bus monitors, school bus mechanics and school bus dispatchers; and
- 8 (3) "Economic aspects" means wages and benefits provided by the
- 9 incumbent school transportation contractor to its nonmanagement
- 10 employees, including, but not limited to, health care insurance and
- 11 pensions.
- 12 (b) On or after the effective date of this section, whenever the state

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13 or any political subdivision thereof lets a contract for the purposes of 14 transporting students, the purchasing agent shall identify all economic 15 aspects of compensation paid to nonmanagement employees of the 16 incumbent employer. Such aspects of compensation shall be included 17 in the request for proposal distributed to all interested bidders. The 18 successor contractor shall be required to offer nonmanagement 19 employees a level of wages and benefits no less than the level 20 provided by the predecessor contractor.

PD JOINT FAVORABLE SUBST. C/R ED

ED JOINT FAVORABLE

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The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: Potential Cost

Affected Agencies: Department of Education

Municipal Impact: Potential Cost

Explanation

State and Municipal Impact:

This bill would require successor contractors for school bus contracts to offer non-management employees a level of wages and benefits no less than the level provided by the predecessor contractor and thus results in a potential cost to the state through the School Transportation grant and local and regional school districts. The potential cost is the result of constraining the successor contractor with personnel costs that could be in excess of what they normally would provide.

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OLR BILL ANALYSIS

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AN ACT CONCERNING SCHOOL BUS CONTRACTS.

SUMMARY:

This bill requires a company that wins a state or municipal school bus contract previously held by another company to offer certain employees of the previous company at least the same level of wages and benefits as existed under the previous contract. The requirement applies to the bus drivers, bus monitors, mechanics, and dispatchers (i.e., non-management employees).

The state or municipal purchasing agent who puts the contract out to bid must include these employees' wages and benefits in the request for proposals. Benefit levels include health-care insurance and pension benefits.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2001

COMMITTEE ACTION

Planning and Development Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Change of Reference Yea 12 Nay 6

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Report Yea 18 Nay 14